

March 21, 1975

SENATOR MURPHY: I would ask that the body vote to reconsider our action on LB 240A. I move the reconsideration thereof.

PRESIDENT: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I do not think we ought to accede to Senator Murphy's request. There is a much profounder and more serious issue involved in this entire thing, than LB 240A. If we vote to reconsider this bill, in a sense we're just delaying coming to grips with the real issue. Now I don't know how wide ranging the Chair is going to allow this discussion to become. If I may address a question to him for information purposes.

PRESIDENT: Yes, Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Based on this motion, and we know the discussion that generated this motion, are we at liberty to discuss all of the factors that lead to Senator Murphy making his motion?

PRESIDENT: I talked to Senator Murphy before the session started. To try to make it as logical, and as orderly as possible, we felt that the proper thing would be to vote on this matter to reconsider. If that is successful, at least for the time being, that ends the matter. Or no, if it's unsuccessful that probably ends the matter. If it's successful then there has to be a vote, again, on 240A. Then the question of the Chair's ruling would properly be before the body, and the discussion of the Attorney General's opinion, etc. Senator Murphy and I discussed the matter that perhaps the discussion of the Attorney General's opinion would not be proper on his motion to reconsider, but rather on the vote on 240A itself, if the motion to reconsider is successful. Now that's merely a discussion that Senator Murphy and I had.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Here's where I would tend to disagree with the Chair. Whenever there's a disagreement, an argument can be said to exist. This is not designed to be argumentative in the negative sense of the term. For me, a motion to reconsider is not in order. I think the ruling of the Chair created a situation where we're taking a redundant action. If the bill, in fact, passed in the first place the motion to reconsider, I think Senator Murphy should make this clear, would be for the purposes of killing the bill, or unpassing it.

PRESIDENT: But Senator . . .

SENATOR CHAMBERS: When he moves to reconsider, and this is a question to you . . .

PRESIDENT: Alright.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Should he stay . . .

PRESIDENT: The bill did not pass. The Chair ruled that way and was sustained 36 to 8 on that. I think for purposes of orderly proceeding that has to be the judgment of the Nebraska Legislature that the bill did not pass.